

from very difficult parts of the world. They were on Skype and checked in at the ceremony, saying that if it hadn't been for his teachings, that they would not have been there.

Dr. Mathis and his wife, Betty Sue, dedicated their lives to the spiritual calling. And without those spiritual teachings in our society today, we find our society is drifting towards moral chaos. We are dealing with those problems here in this Congress as we deal with teen pregnancies, with hunger, with people who are wasting their lives on drugs and taking extraordinary amounts of Medicaid.

So we deal with the problems of a society that is becoming all too secular and forgetting that no matter what we pass as laws here that there is a moral component to every nation and that if we ignore that, we ignore it at our peril. I would like to give my congratulations to Dr. Dean Mathis and his wife, Betty Sue, for their years of service.

But then on the same day, we were able to recognize Carl Mackey. Carl Mackey was a few years younger than me and passed away at too early an age last year. Carl Mackey was a community leader. He was one of the friends, one of the many people that my mom had in class. She used to talk about Carl and said, Carl is really mobile. That meant Carl was walking up and down all the time during classes. Carl was actually one of her favorite students.

Now, I know Mom and Carl both personally, and they probably did not agree on one philosophical issue: Carl was a hard-core Democrat, community activist, black leader. Mom just was conservative, raised a conservative family. But they identified each other across that chasm of philosophy to recognize that there aren't many differences in us accept the human nature that says that everyone should have access to justice, to mercy, and to kindness. So it was in that that this young junior high student and Mom formed a relationship that continued until he passed away.

I was able to visit with Mom about their relationship this last weekend, and she still remembers it with a smile. When I was elected and Carl Mackey was serving, Carl and I, again, overcame all the supposed difficulties, the things that we did not see eye to eye on in our philosophies. But we did see eye to eye in having him represent a piece of the community that is often forgotten. That was the community that I grew up in, the southern part of Hobbs, the part of Hobbs that did not get its fair share of funding, fair share of justice.

So Carl was a constant voice, reminding all of us that we need to stop, slow down just a bit, and pay attention to the small guys in society. He will be greatly missed, and Dr. Mathis and his wife will be greatly missed. But I thank the community of Hobbs, taking the time to honor two different people,

completely different backgrounds, completely different lives who weren't so different after all.

In the end, we are all Americans, and we're here for a better America. I salute them both.

□ 1220

#### THE BARBER OF BIRMINGHAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Alabama (Ms. SEWELL) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American, Mr. James Armstrong of Birmingham, Alabama, and the inspiring documentary of his life entitled "The Barber of Birmingham: Foot Soldier of the Civil Rights Movement." This film had its world premiere in January at the Sundance Film Festival and later won Best Documentary Short at the Ashland Independent Film Festival.

In March, the city of Birmingham hosted a red carpet screening of this wonderful movie, and it was attended by over 2,000 Alabamians. It was featured at the Alabama Theater, a venue that once refused admission to African Americans.

Tonight we will celebrate "The Barber of Birmingham" with its Washington, D.C., premiere. Later this week, the documentary will be screened at the Silverdocs festival in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Mr. Speaker, the screening of this film and its historic accounts are deserving of tribute. I commend the independent filmmakers and codirectors, Robin Fryday and the late Gail Dolgin, for their collaborative vision in capturing the essence of Mr. James Armstrong's life, a Birmingham legend and civil rights activist.

This documentary celebrates the thousands of foot soldiers whose names are not written in the history books but on whose shoulders we all stand. I applaud the directors for their wonderful rendition of Mr. James Armstrong's life.

I applaud Gail Dolgin for her steadfast determination to battle breast cancer while codirecting and editing the film from her hospice bed in order to submit the film for the Sundance Film Festival. She died 2 weeks prior.

I pay homage to Ms. Amelia Boynton of Selma, who was interviewed and provided historical accounts for segments of the film. The film also visited and revisited the news footage of the beating of Ms. Amelia Boynton and others that endured beatings on Edmund Pettus Bridge on Bloody Sunday during their march for the Voting Rights Act.

Though she is ill, Ms. Boynton was determined to travel the distance to be a part of tonight's premiere. I am inspired by the courage and determination displayed by Ms. Boynton, who, at 99 years old, would not be deterred and will be here tonight at the premiere of "The Barber of Birmingham" right here at the Capitol Visitor's Center.

James Armstrong, who died at 81 in November 2009, lived to see the fulfillment of his dream when our Nation elected its first African American President. I recognize him for a symbol of everything that is good and right and great in this Nation.

For over 50 years, Mr. Armstrong ran a barber shop in Birmingham, Alabama. It served as a community hub for discussions of current events, like the Voting Rights Act, education, and other civil rights issues.

Mr. James Armstrong was a World War II Army veteran, and he made his mark on the civil rights movement as a foot soldier who carried the American flag at the head of the 1965 Selma to Montgomery march, Bloody Sunday, as it's known. When authorities turned on the marchers that day, Mr. Armstrong dropped to his knees, but he never let go of that flag. Proudly, James Armstrong carried that flag until the day he died in 2009 for every commemoration of the Bloody Sunday march.

As many in this august body will note, our colleague, the Honorable JOHN LEWIS of Georgia, was among the foot soldiers of this historic march.

I salute Mr. Armstrong and his sons, Dwight and Floyd, for fulfilling the destiny meant for them. He and his sons filed a discrimination lawsuit that encouraged Blacks to actually attend elementary schools in the Deep South, breaking barriers in public education in Birmingham and throughout the South. They filed a desegregation lawsuit in 1963.

The Armstrongs lived close to where civil rights activist the Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth's home was bombed, and where the four little Black girls were killed in the 16th Avenue Baptist Church just 5 days after they integrated Graymont Elementary School.

Dwight and Floyd needed a Federal escort to school for 2 years and were guarded at night with shotguns by members of the Alabama Christian Movement For Human Rights.

Now, these selfless acts by James, Floyd, and Dwight Armstrong added significantly to the quality of life of all citizens in Alabama and in Birmingham. That is why I stand before you today to recognize Mr. James Armstrong, a proud American, a proud Alabamian, for his unrelenting dedication to the civil rights movement.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a point of personal privilege. Growing up in Selma, Alabama, I take great pride in paying tribute to a film that not only shares our painful history, but also celebrates our time-tested resiliency through the life of James Armstrong and other unsung foot soldiers and heroes. This documentary, which people will be able to see in theaters in New York and Los Angeles in August and September, should motivate us all to protect the right to vote for every single American citizen. The film should also inspire all citizens of every age, race, or gender to cherish the right to vote and to use it to advance this great Nation for the benefit of all people.

I look forward to attending the Capitol Hill premiere tonight and urge all to see *The Barber of Birmingham: Foot Soldier of the Civil Rights Movement*.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

#### ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES WE FACE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, as always, it's an honor to speak here in the House of Representatives.

I heard Democratic friends mention earlier that what we need to do to get the economy going is start spending on infrastructure because our grandchildren will really appreciate the dollars that they have to pay years from now that we spent on infrastructure.

The only thing is, that's exactly what our friends across the aisle were saying in January of 2009 when they wanted an \$800 billion stimulus package that turned out to be maybe \$900 billion or \$1 trillion. It was going to be for infrastructure. And many in the American public said, yeah, that's a good idea. It turned out that only around 6 percent or so, 6 to 7 percent may have been for infrastructure.

Okay. Fooled us once, shame on you. Fool us twice, shame on us.

The thing is, some of us weren't fooled even back then. We had already seen things that were said that would be done that were not done. So I voted against that so-called "porkulus" stimulus, or whatever you want to call it, bill. I voted against TARP because in America we're not supposed to just give one man \$700 billion and say, go do whatever you want with all this money; we don't care, just fix things. Because he certainly didn't fix things, although he did engorge his buddies at Goldman Sachs.

Nonetheless, we do face economic difficulties. And within the last 2 weeks there were six of us, a bipartisan group, in Turkey. Their economy seems to be going very well, and we were seeing things growing and doing well in Istanbul. And they don't understand sarcasm very well and so, but I, nonetheless, said to some of their economic leaders, business leaders, so you must have had many huge stimulus packages to get the economy going. They looked at me like I was crazy because they don't understand sarcasm very well in another language I guess. But they spoke good English.

Nonetheless, they didn't use stimulus packages. But they did say they had dropped their corporate tax rate that was much too high down to 20 percent, and now businesses have been coming in. That works. It works whenever it's been tried.

But let me get to another point. Credibility is always relevant. In my

days as a judge and chief justice that was one of the rules of the court. Credibility is always an issue. It's always relevant. So when this country makes promises to people and doesn't keep them, or they're stupid promises to people we know will not keep their word to us, we lose credibility.

We found out now that this administration is negotiating with the Taliban; basically, you know, just let us out. We're negotiating with the Taliban? Did Hoover negotiate with Dillinger, and Bonnie and Clyde?

Did Robert Kennedy, as Attorney General, negotiate with the Mob?

When people are involved and they're criminals and they're murderers and they're engaged in criminal activity and they've never kept a promise, do you really want to be making that deal?

Now, I know it seems like we should have learned a lesson from the Clinton administration. When North Korea was trying to build nukes, the Clinton administration sends Madeleine Albright, and she comes in, hey, hey, how about dropping pursuing nuclear weapons? We'll build you a nuclear power plant if you'll just—you'll build us a nuclear power plant if we just tell you we won't pursue it? Sure, we'll tell you that all day long.

□ 1230

So they cut a deal. We built them a nuclear plant, and that has been used to develop nuclear weapons, just like anybody should have figured it would. When you deal with criminals, with lying thugs, you can't trust that agreement.

For us to be negotiating with the Taliban is a blight on those who have given their lives there. I attended a funeral this weekend of Brad Gaudet, who went down in a helicopter accident on June 5. We owe those people who have given their lives fighting against those who want to destroy our way of life better than cutting a deal.

Let's rearm the Northern Alliance, the people that originally defeated the Taliban—just give them the advisers, the trainers, all that they need, and let them whip the Taliban for us again. Let's not negotiate with Dillinger. It makes no sense and we lose credibility.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Loving and gracious God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

We ask today that You bless the Members of this assembly to be the best and most faithful servants of the people they serve. Purify their intentions, that they will say what they believe and act consistent with their words.

Help them, indeed help us all, to be honest with themselves, so that they will not only be concerned with how their words and deeds are weighed by others, but also with how their words and deeds affect the lives of those in need and those who look to them for support, help, strength, and leadership.

May all that is done this day in the people's House be for Your greater honor and glory. Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. FLEISCHMANN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. FLEISCHMANN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### NLRB KILLING JOBS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, Congressman DARELL ISSA conducted a field hearing in North Charleston, South Carolina. A witness who really brought home the consequences families will face as a result of the NLRB's job-killing complaint was Cynthia Ramaker, who is currently employed at Boeing.

Bringing a human face to the complaint, she explained how the NLRB is denying her right to work. She explained that Boeing's new 1.1 million square foot building is already completed. Manufacturing is to begin this summer, with over 1,000 jobs already, and up to 3,800 more jobs could come. With construction and suppliers, ultimately 9,000 jobs could be created.

Boeing was attracted to South Carolina because of the trained world-class workforce, a welcoming pro-business climate, right to work laws, and a pro-business government of Republicans and Democrats. The job-killing action